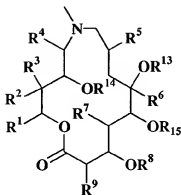


Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-20 (Cancelled)

Claim 21 (Currently Amended) A compound according to the formula II below:



R¹ is selected from:

- H, CH₃, C₂H₅
- an alpha-branched C₃-C₈ group selected from alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxyalkyl and alkylthioalkyl groups any of which may be optionally substituted by one or more hydroxyl groups;
- a C₅-C₈ cycloalkylalkyl group wherein the alkyl group is an alpha-branched C₂-C₅ alkyl group
- a C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl group or C₅-C₈ cycloalkenyl group, either of which may optionally be substituted by one or more hydroxyl, or one or more C₁-C₄ alkyl groups or halo atoms
- a 3 to 6 membered oxygen or sulphur containing heterocyclic ring which may be saturated, or fully or partially unsaturated and which may optionally be substituted by one or more C₁-C₄ alkyl groups, halo atoms or hydroxyl groups
- phenyl which may be optionally substituted with at least one substituent selected from C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy, and C₁-C₄ alkylthio groups, halogen atoms, trifluoromethyl, and cyano or
- R¹⁷-CH₂- where R¹⁷ is H, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₂-C₈ alkenyl, C₂-C₈ alkynyl, alkoxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl containing from 1 to 6 carbon atoms in each alkyl or alkoxy group wherein any of said alkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl or alkynyl groups may

be substituted by one or more hydroxyl groups or by one or more halo atoms; or a C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl or C₅-C₈ cycloalkenyl either of which may be optionally substituted by one or more C₁-C₄ alkyl groups or halo atoms; or a 3 to 6 membered oxygen or sulphur containing heterocyclic ring which may be saturated or fully or partially unsaturated and which may optionally be substituted by one or more C₁-C₄ alkyl groups or halo atoms; or a group of the formula SA₁₆ wherein A₁₆ is C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₂-C₈ alkenyl, C₂-C₈ alkynyl, C₃-C₈ cycloalkyl, C₅-C₈ cycloalkenyl, phenyl or substituted phenyl wherein the substituent is C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxy or halo, or a 3 to 6 membered oxygen or sulphur-containing heterocyclic ring which may be saturated, or fully or partially unsaturated and which may optionally be substituted by one or more C₁-C₄ alkyl groups or halo atoms

R², R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷ and R⁹ are each independently H, OH, CH₃, C₂H₅ or OCH₃

R³ = H or OH



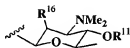
R⁸ = H, , rhamnose, 2'-O-methyl rhamnose, 2',3'-bis-O-methyl rhamnose, 2',3',4'-tri-O-methyl rhamnose, oleandrose, oltose, digitoxose, olivose or angolosamine; R¹⁰ = H or CH₃ or C(=O)R_A, where R_A = C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₂-C₆ alkenyl or C₂-C₆ alkynyl



R¹¹ = H, , mycarose, C₄-O-acyl-mycarose or glucose

R¹² = H or C(=O)R_A, where R_A = C₁-C₆ alkyl, C₂-C₆ alkenyl or C₂-C₆ alkynyl

R¹³ = H or CH₃



R¹⁵ = H or

R¹⁶ = H or OH

R¹⁴ = H or -C(O)NR^cR^d wherein each of R^c and R^d is independently H, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl, C₂-C₁₀ alkynyl, -(CH₂)_m(C₆-C₁₀ aryl), or (CH₂)_m(5-10 membered heteroaryl), wherein m is an integer ranging from 0 to 4, and wherein each of the foregoing R^c and R^d groups, except H, may be substituted by 1 to 3 Q groups; or wherein R^c and R^d may be taken together to form a 4-7 membered saturated ring or a 5-10 membered heteroaryl ring, wherein said saturated and heteroaryl rings may include 1 or 2 heteroatoms selected from O, S and N, in addition to the nitrogen to which R^c and R^d are attached, and said saturated

ring may include 1 or 2 carbon-carbon double or triple bonds, and said saturated and heteroaryl rings may be substituted by 1 to 3 Q groups; or R^2 and R^{17} taken together form a carbonate ring;

each Q is independently selected from halo, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, azido, $-C(O)Q^1$, $-OC(O)Q^1$, $-C(O)OQ^1$, $-OC(O)OQ^1$, $NQ^2C(O)Q^3$, $-C(O)NQ^2Q^3$, $-NQ^2Q^3$, hydroxy, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, $(CH_2)_m(C_6$ - C_{10} aryl), and $-(CH_2)_m(5$ -10 membered heteroaryl), wherein m is an integer ranging from 0 to 4, and wherein said aryl and heteroaryl substituents may be substituted by 1 or 2 substituents independently selected from halo, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, azido, $-C(O)Q^1$, $-C(O)OQ^1$, $-OC(O)OQ^1$, $-NQ^2C(O)Q^3$, $-C(O)NQ^2Q^3$, $-NQ^2Q^3$, hydroxy, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, and C_1 - C_6 alkoxy;

each Q^1 , Q^2 and Q^3 is independently selected from H, OH, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, C_2 - C_{10} alkenyl, C_2 - C_{10} alkynyl, $-(CH_2)_m(C_6$ - C_{10} aryl), and $-(CH_2)_m(5$ -10 membered heteroaryl), wherein m is an integer ranging from 0 to 4;

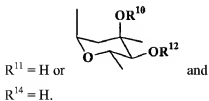
or said compound is a variant of any of the above in which the $-CHOR^{14}$ at C12 is replaced by a methylene group ($-CH_2-$), a keto group ($C=O$), or by a 11, 12-olefinic bond;

with the proviso that when R^8 is H, R^{15} cannot also be H.

Claims 22-26 (Cancelled)

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 21, wherein: R^2 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 are all CH_3 .

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 27, wherein



Claims 29-30 (Cancelled)

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 21, wherein $R^1 = C_2H_5$.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 27, wherein $R^1 = C_2H_5$.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 21, wherein $R^3 = OH$.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 27, wherein $R^3 = OH$.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 31, wherein $R^3 = OH$.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 32, wherein $R^3 = OH$.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 21, wherein $R^8 =$
angolosamine.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 27, wherein $R^8 =$
angolosamine.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 31, wherein $R^8 =$
angolosamine.

Claim 40 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 32, wherein $R^8 =$
angolosamine.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 33, wherein $R^8 =$
angolosamine.

Claim 42 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 34, wherein $R^8 =$
angolosamine.

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 35, wherein $R^8 =$
angolosamine.

Claim 44 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 36, wherein $R^8 =$
angolosamine.

Claim 45 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 21, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} ,
and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 46 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 27, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 47 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 31, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 48 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 32, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 49 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 33, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 50 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 34, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 51 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 35, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 52 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 36, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 53 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 37, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 54 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 38, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 55 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 39, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 56 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 40, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 57 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 41, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 58 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 42, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 59 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 43, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.

Claim 60 (Previously Presented): A compound according to claim 44, wherein R^{13} , R^{14} , and R^{15} are all H.